

YOUTH SERVICES NOTES

Week of August 22, 2016

No. 256

Portsmouth Public Library **Back to School Library Display**



Display created by Kathy Faulks, Library Associate;
Submitted by Rachel Enrich. 

Gloucester County Public Library **1st Annual Comic Con**

The 1st Annual Gloucester County Public Library (GCPL) Comic Con was held at the Main Library on Saturday, August 13 with an attendance of 2,054.


These Comic Con fans were brought together by their passion for pop culture and having a good time at their local Library!

Hundreds of these fans dressed up, impersonating a galaxy of characters such as Wonder Woman, Storm Troopers, Batman, Statue of Liberty, Manga Kimono Girl to only name a few! Prizes were awarded during a costume contest. There were exciting activities for all ages: crafts, games, giveaways, demonstrations, face painting, story times, refreshments, and more!

The Gloucester County Friends of the Library sponsored this event. Their hard work raises money for the Library. They fund performers, prizes,

giveaways, refreshments, advertising, and so much more for all our programs, activities, and events. Thanks Friends! You all are the best!

The Library's teen specialist, Sissi Mise and the rest of the GCPL staff need to be thanked as well. They go above and beyond the call of duty every day and Saturday was no different! Staff dedication and hard work make our county library system great. This was an example of excellent team effort! Our teen volunteers are super too!

Submitted by Diane M. Rebertus, Director, who also noted that T-shirts were made to advertise the event. 



The Library of Virginia

Mission

As the Commonwealth's library and archives, the Library of Virginia is a trusted educational institution. We acquire, preserve, and promote access to unique collections of Virginia's history and advance the development of library and records management services statewide.

Vision

The Library of Virginia will inspire learning, ignite imagination, create possibilities, encourage understanding, and engage Virginia's past to empower its future.

Finance

The Library's primary funding source is General Fund appropriations. The majority of the Library's General Fund expenses represent transfer payments to local government for state aid to public libraries. Additionally, the Library earns special nongeneral fund revenue from storage fees charged to agencies and courts for document and records storage and from local circuit court records' preservation fees.

The Library also receives federal grant funding through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) of 1996. This grant promotes access to learning and information resources of libraries.

Goals

2014-2016

Collections:

Strengthen and Preserve the Library's collections and expand accessibility for the benefit of users.

Service:

Deliver courteous, accurate, and efficient information services to our customers.

Organizational Excellence:

Position the Library to effectively embrace new challenges and increasing responsibilities.

Educational Readiness and Achievement:

Engage and educate parents, teachers, and learners through programming designed to enhance early literacy readiness and to provide access to quality education resources for prekindergarten and K12 children.

This goal is critical in fulfilling the Library's mission to provide Virginians with access to the most comprehensive information resources and to elevate levels of educational preparedness and attainment of Virginia's citizens.

Associated State Goal

Education: Elevate the levels of educational preparedness and attainment of our citizens.

Education Attainment Objectives

- ◆ Increase the number of children who participate in the Winter Reading Program.
- ◆ Increase the number of children and teens who are served by public libraries through out-of-school programs and summer reading programs.
- ◆ Support the parent as a child's first teacher by implementing Early Literacy Activity Centers in public libraries and providing training on their use.

Youth Services Notes

is issued weekly by

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The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums.

Through grant making, policy development, and research, IMLS helps communities and individuals thrive through broad public access to knowledge, cultural heritage, and lifelong learning.

This newsletter project is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Institute of Museum and Library Services

Libraries Partnering to Serve At-Risk Youth Should Consider Applying for Round 3 of P3

Seven federal agencies, including IMLS, have announced the third round of Performance Partnership Pilots for Disconnected Youth (P3), with an application deadline of October 31, 2016.

The estimated range of awards is \$200,000 to \$250,000, and the agencies will name up to 10 pilots to better serve youth between the ages of 16-24 who are low-income, homeless, in foster care, in the juvenile justice system, unemployed, not enrolled in school, or at risk of dropping out.

P3 is a different kind of grant program. Group of partners that are already receiving federal funds from at least two of the participating agencies (ED, Labor, Justice, HHS, HUD, CNCS, and IMLS) apply together. They must request some level of flexibility around existing programmatic or reporting requirements related to those funds, in order to achieve larger gains for disconnected youth.

Some examples of requested flexibility from Round 1 include certain Department of Labor grants, which specify that 75% of program funds must serve out-of-school youth, but partners wanted to serve disconnected youth in an integrated school-based model instead. Another example targeted certain Department of Education grants, which are specified for the higher grades, but might better serve older youth who are several years behind and only in 6th grade.

A list of examples of eligible programs appears in the Grants.gov application package (URL below).

Mandatory funds such as TANF, Medicaid, Social Security, Vocational Rehabilitation Services, and most Foster Care IV-E programs cannot be blended in a pilot, nor is there is authority to offer flexibilities for these programs under P3. These programs can, however, be "braided" to support a pilot.

We know that state and public libraries are great partners in this kind of youth-serving work, and we would love to see more library representation in our P3 grantee pool. At present, Broward County in Florida and Ysleta del Sur Pueblo are the two examples of pilots using IMLS funds. If you or your subrecipients are interested, but not sure where to find other partners, you can check the URLs below for other federally-funded partners in your area. Note that the

competition also includes separate categories of consideration for applicants that propose to serve disconnected youth in rural communities, in tribal communities, or in communities that recently have experienced civil unrest.

A P3 webinar ("bidders conference") scheduled for next Thursday, August 25, 2016, from 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern Time, will cover application requirements and selection criteria. You can register in advance at the youth.gov/P3 site (URL below), and the recording will also be available later.

We welcome you to forward this information to your partners and subrecipients and direct any questions to disconnectedyouth@ed.gov.

Related Blog Post

<https://www.imls.gov/news-events/upnext-blog/2016/08/calling-third-round-p3-applicants-better-serve-disconnected-youth-p3>

Notice Inviting Applications

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/08/15/2016-19294/applications-for-new-awards-performance-partnership-pilots>

Registration for the August 25 webinar

<http://youth.gov/youth-topics/reconnecting-youth/performance-partnership-pilots/round-3-bidders-conference-registration>

Grants.gov Application Package

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=287493>

Find Other Partners


<http://youth.gov/map-my-community>

tip: enter "grant OR grants" as keywords)

<http://www.servicelocator.org/contactspartners.asp>

Email dated August 29, 2016 from

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DayByDayVA



WWW.DAYBYDAYVA.ORG

FAMILY LITERACY CALENDAR

From PUBYAC


Daily Book Review Blog

Hi everyone--I've posted about my blog before, but thought I'd mention it again now that we are heading back to school. **I post a review of a children's book published in 2016 every day at www.kidsbookaday.com.**

I've done this since February, 2015, so there are over 500 reviews of new books. You can search by genre, or just read through the list! Be sure to click on "Follow" if you'd like to get the reviews delivered to your email each morning.

Thanks!

Posted August 15, 2016 by

Janet Dawson Hamilton, K-8 Librarian, Hampden
Wilbraham Regional School District, Wilbraham, MA
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Cart/Campbell Grant Deadline for ALAN (Assembly on Literature for Adolescents of NCTE)

You probably know the names: **Michael Cart** and **Patty Campbell**. Two of the best-known advocates of Teen literature. **There is now a grant available to honor them so a school or public librarian can attend the two-day ALAN Workshop, a feast of YA authors and literature and knowledge (and a huge, free carton of books!).**

This year, it's in Atlanta, November 21-22, with the author reception the night of November 20.

Here is the link to apply for the grant:

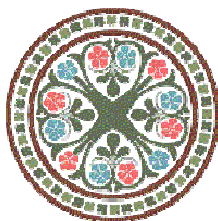
<http://www.alan-ya.org/awards/the-cartcampbell-grant/>

Please excuse cross-postings! **We want to get the word out as the deadline of September 1st is approaching!**

Thanks,

Posted August 15, 2016 by

Diane P. Tuccillo, Teen Services Librarian
Harmony Library, Poudre River Public Library District
Fort Collins, CO 80526 



Book Bikes

Hi all, Not specifically a youth services question, but my library is interested in perhaps adding a **Book Bike/bicycle bookmobile**. If you have such a thing in your library, could you email me off list and give me whatever info you can about what you have (in terms of equipment), how you use it, and anything else you think would be helpful to newbies investigating the idea? I will compile if it's requested. *Many thanks, Polly Ross | Children's Librarian, Aurora Public Library, Aurora, ON, Canada (Posted July 5, 2016);* Hi all, Thanks to everyone who responded with advice about Book Bikes! We really appreciate it, and we may indeed be in touch with you if you offered to answer further questions. Thanks as well to all who took the time to forward my question to a colleague who could answer the questions! Below is a list of advice, links, etc., because a lot of people mentioned they would like a compilation. I have removed names (in some cases someone from a different library responded to say that X library had one, so I haven't heard directly from everyone), but included the municipality from which the response came, should you wish to contact them directly for more information. I haven't had any responses for a few days, so I'm passing this on now, but I'm happy to get more responses if they're available, and I will compile those as well if it seems worthwhile. With deep gratitude :) *Regards, Polly. (Posted July 18, 2016)*

Book Bike Responses



Los Gatos, CA

Meet the Chartreuse Caboose! Los Gatos Library's Pedal-Powered Library

<http://www.losgatosca.gov/2306/Book-Mobile>



Plainfield, IN

We got a book bike this spring. Official training (through the police dept.) is still coming up, but already it has been to the farmers market and a free lunch programs, where we also take a story & craft. Our town has a great pathway and parks system, so we will be able to get around by bike pretty well. I think we are the first book bike in Indiana, celebrating 100 years since we had the first bookmobile in Indiana.

It came from Burgeon, and a local bike shop provided the bikes and helmets.

<http://www.indystar.com/search/book%20bike/>

<http://www.indystar.com/story/life/2016/06/14/library-rolls-out-bike-book-mobile/85616032/>

<http://wishtv.com/2016/06/08/plainfield-continues-history-of-mobile-reading/>

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Book Bikes

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My first piece of advice is to get the book bike along with a buddy bike. We always have 2 people go out together to do outreach on the book bike, and it's a good thing, too, since we had our first mishap just a few weeks ago. A screw came loose on the trailer and it took a bit of muscle and a double set of hands to repair it on the roadside.

Partner with a local bike shop to help with setting up the trailer/bike. A1 Cyclery here in Indianapolis received the trailer and bikes and helped set them up for us free of charge. They also donated helmets and a few safety items.

Partner with a local hospital for ongoing updates/repairs. Our local hospital has agreed to donate \$1,000 per year to help with upkeep for our book bike. They provided us with a decal that we put on the trailer as a thank you and they are displaying the book bike at our county fair. The hospital also donated bike helmets for staff and a first aid kit for when we are doing outreach.

(second response from Plainfield)

Have your local police department train staff on bike safety before you begin your outreach in the community. We have yet to have our staff be trained by our local police, but that will come in about a week. We had some issues with delivery/schedules so the training had to take a back seat for a bit. A select few staff members who are avid cyclists have been doing outreach in the meantime.

Who goes out? Well, let's just say that when the book bike arrived our outreach "volunteers" on staff basically tripled. We usually have a core group of 4 people who like doing outreach, but we have about 15 people who have signed up to be trained on doing book bike outreach. This is wonderful! Not only does it give us a bigger pool to pull from for events, but it helps with cross-departmental training and increases overall employee happiness.

Be sure to cater items for checkout based on where you are doing outreach. Seems like common sense, but we didn't realize we would need a ton of teen books until we went to our first lunch bunch outreach event. Afterwards we stocked up and had lots of happy teens at our next event. So far we go twice a week to a local lunch bunch event (about 4 miles away) and once a week to our local farmers market. We take books on gardening, canning, crafts, woodworking, children's books, summer reads, etc. to that outreach event. Our next set of outreach events will be back to school orientations. We will be taking early readers and

picture books primarily, as well as library card applications so we can issue cards on the spot. We take all of our event listings and resource handouts to every event as well.

Berkeley, CA

In Berkeley, we operate the Library on Wheels <https://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/library/library-wheels>, a cargo bike equipped with iPads, a mobile Wi-Fi hotspot, and librarians. We are capable of offering most library services anywhere in the city. If you'd like more information, just let me know. I'd also suggest joining the Biking Librarians Facebook Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/bikinglibrarians/> to connect with other librarians using bicycles for outreach services.




Rochester, MN

<http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/my-rpl/bookbike>

Daytona Beach, FL

It would be best to consult a bike shop for bike and trailer information. The cart was designed by staff and made locally. It's hard to find one already made and depends on the style you are looking for. (included attachments which I can share with individuals if you email me, but I know the list can't handle them).

Cleveland, OH

The Cleveland Public Library owns the People's University Express Book Bike. What we did was located the bike codes/rules for our state, and made sure we bought everything we needed to ride the bicycle on the street. We utilize regularly our lights, helmet, safety vest. 

Daycares at Summer Reading Club

Hello, I know I've seen in the past different ways libraries deal with daycares at Summer Reading Club. We are having the problem of daycare kids overwhelming our smallish space for programs. Also, I want the priority to be on families who actually bring their kids to the library. At the same time, their attendance definitely adds to our statistics, which is always good. If you have a special summer program for daycares, how does that work? I'm especially interested in programs that have prizes for the daycare's reading together, instead of for each child reading x amount of books/hours/days. What kind of prizes do you give to daycares? I would like for the daycare kids to be able to potentially sign up both

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Daycares at Summer Reading Club

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with the daycare program and with the regular SRC for families. Thank you. Will compile responses. Becky Isbell, Director, Brownwood Public Library, Brownwood, TX 76801 (Posted August 1, 2016); A little late, but here is the compilation on daycares at Summer Reading Club. Thank you to everyone who responded! (Posted August 15, 2016)

🐦 We have two special story times for the Boys and Girls Club daycare, which works out great. It's just a repeat of the same age group, so I don't have extra prep time. It also keeps some of our numbers steady when our regulars are all on vacation.

Daycares can sign up as a group and complete the tasks together. When the teachers come in with prizes, they come to me instead of the teen volunteers, and hand me the game board with the class name written on it, and tell me how many students they have currently, then I give them that many prizes. I don't worry about whether every single child was present for every single activity on the game board, I am not sending t-shirts home with every child but little Susie! When they earn raffle tickets, they usually put the whole class in for one item, so they can share and there are no arguments. This year the 3-year-olds from Full House won the Tonka rug and truck.)

Oh, and I don't make them fill out individual registration forms, they just give me a list with names, ages, and t-shirt size, and I put them in a spreadsheet for record keeping.

🐦 I know how ya feel! We offer two large special performances every Monday (musicians, magicians, etc.) for the public. The shows, due to popularity, require free tickets that are available the Tuesday before each show. I've heard stories about how our day care providers would line up before the library opened and then literally push and cajole their way past each other to get to the desk first. Then there would be a struggle over how to give day cares tickets and still have some for the public. When I came on board, one of the first things to be re-designed was this process.

So - we offer our day cares two different ways to participate in our SRP, and they are welcome to do both. One is for events and one is for the SRP tracking. We have 14 day cares participating in the program now, which is all but two in the community.

I send out letters in April to every day care and outline the two options - I've attached an example letter so you can see. They get to pre-register for our mega Mondays and we guarantee up to a certain number of shows. They request their number of tickets (we limit

them to approx. 40 per show they attend). As the letters get returned to me, I begin to fill in the assigned Mondays. We try and honor first come, first serve but we also try to have an even mix and no more than a certain number of day care tickets per show so that I have enough to meet the demand of the public. Over the past few years, we've learned to stack day care attendance higher at the end of the summer (when the public attendance dwindles due to last minute vacations, etc.) and lower at the start of summer (when families are really excited and parents are scrambling to fill all these open days). This is the ONLY event we allow day cares to attend in house due to numbers and space limitations.

One thing that is SO frustrating the past two years - I've had a lot of day cares bring way less kids than tickets requested some weeks, so we've had to create a waiting list for families who didn't get tickets ahead of time. We do reminder calls the morning of to our problem day cares anyway (the ones that forget!) and so we add in all of the groups attending that day to get a head count so we know if a waiting list is worth it. It's helped soothe some of our annoyed parents that day cares come at all to a show and is great because I'd rather have bodies for all the extra tickets than not.

They are welcome to bring their kids to the library for book checkout / library time any other day but Mondays as well.

We used to require day cares to register kids individually, track their reading just like our families, and juggle four different stages of prizes. It didn't work at all and the library's involvement was never really pointed out to kids and parents.

Now they register by class - all I care about is age range and number of kids per class. I don't even worry about if they sign up with their families too - in fact, I'd love it if they did. The day care classrooms get a large, professionally printed giant poster (donated by a local printer - also attached so you can see it) with the exact same amount of reading as the individual cards. They get one of our small prizes and a set of food coupons ahead of time to share with the kids whenever they

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Daycares at Summer Reading Club

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need some encouragement or celebration. When they complete the reading, they call us to schedule a special storytime and we deliver a free book to every child. Not every day care group actually follows through with the final piece - some close too early (we ask that they don't schedule the final prize visit until after our summer programs are done on August 9. I have a small staff so we have to juggle everything) and some just aren't organized enough. But with 1,250 kids registered through day cares, I expect that.

Day care participation has literally quadrupled since we made the tracking system change and feedback is only positive. I have so many day care teachers who were resistant when it was a lot of work and now have shared with other teachers how easy and fun it is and that overrides worrying about any of the hassle for me to prep over 50 packets of prizes and posters while getting SRP ready for the public too.


I know it's really hard to juggle the needs and wants of families while trying to make good with your groups, too. We've had to stay firm on no groups in storytimes, because our summer numbers are large enough that it becomes a zoo in our designated storytime room, but they are very gracious about learning the limitations we ask them to follow because we have designed a simplified version just for them and they're appreciative.

This summer, numbers are down in general to our Monday shows for the first time (but up on everything else) so we are conducting a survey about mega Mondays with the public to see if its time for a change, as the Monday events have been around for maybe ten years.


Hope that helps!

 We do a daycare program where as a whole the daycare director signs up for a delivery of a certain number of books on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. The teachers/caregivers have access to these books from the office. At the end of the summer, we deliver them a ice cream party...

Its pretty popular. I've had kids that have signed up individually for SRP that are also a part of the daycare (usually those are the 2 or 3 day a week kids instead of the full time kids) As far as stats go, on the registration forms I ask for their number of children enrolled for the summer months, as well as the frequency of book drops and number of books/drop.

 We made our daycare SRP part of our summer outreach. We visit each three times: once to sign them

up, once to check on them in the middle, and once at the end. We give them our preschool log, where they track reading books as a class. We'll bring a few small incentives on the first and second visits--usually leftover prizes from a previous year. If they finish the whole sheet, the class earns a book. We've bought big books before, and we've used good quality/good condition weeded books as well. They love it. Tracking wise, though one class gets one sheet, we count each kid in the class as a participant in our final SRP numbers. That means that some may double dip, because their families are also bringing them in, but

that's fine with us. It's a different well of prizes.  We offer a summer reading program to our summer schools, summer camps and day cares that allows them to read as a class. I'm attaching our reading log for them to this email. It asks them to read 5 books to receive a small prize. This is exactly the same as our program in the library. The only difference is that we do not give them individual drawing chances for each additional five books they read which is what we do with the library kids. Instead, if the class reads additional books then I give them 2-3 paperback books that the teacher can either do a drawing for the kids or they can keep the books for their classroom. The prizes I give to the summer school/day care kids is a bookmark, sticker, and a coupon.

As for events in the library, day cares are allowed to ask for one visit to their facility per month and can request one program geared for them at the library per month. This is the rule year-round for our library.

The visit to the facility is basically my weekly story time at the library at their facility. If they choose to do a program at the library then it is a repeat of one of our craft or game programs. They get to choose from a list that I offer. They can come to any of our weekly story times or movies as we don't require sign-up for them -


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Daycares at Summer Reading Club


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however, they must give us at least 24 hour notice if they're bringing more than 5 kids.

 We had the same trouble with a local daycare. They would crash our regular storytimes, bringing many children and few staff. They were disorganized, and occasionally lost a child or two. Soon both library staff and patrons were complaining.

In NY, people who are paid to take care of children may not use public services (library, parks, etc.) without making prior arrangements. We reminded them of this law and set them up with their own separate time slot. Unfortunately, their staff saw this as having been kicked out, so they refused to make use of this solution. Their choice, the children's loss. I still don't feel like we've buried the hatchet entirely, but at least they have stopped their deliberate smear campaign against the library.

You may need to research your state laws to see if there are any applicable to your situation. If so, that will give you backup. Good luck.

 We started offering special programming this summer that was amenable to large groups so that daycares/day camps could attend with the rest of our regular patrons. Last year they surprised us at a program and we had over 120 people trying to build a wooden dinosaur in our meeting room! This summer has worked out much better. We've had mostly performers, but I also did a "Silly Song Sing-Along" in June. This way, everyone is sitting down and we can pack more people into the room. During the school year, we offer each daycare that requests it that we can do a special program for them once a month so that we aren't stretching ourselves too thin and they're still getting quality storytime or other programming instead of taking up all of the spaces in our regular programs.

As for participation in Summer Reading, every day care/day camp that wants to participate goes through our Outreach Department. We used to have them going through each local branch, but it became very confusing as to who the teachers were supposed to call for their prizes. We create a special "teacher log" every year, and teachers mark off the number of students achieving each benchmark for all the weeks throughout the summer. Usually, they just put the whole class down and assume everyone is participating fully even if they miss a day here and there, and that works fine for us. Our prizes are books--three if you finish the whole program during the summer. The rules for the day care/day camp state that these books MUST go home with the child and


cannot stay in the center. The children who participate at one of these locations are also not supposed to participate at home with a branch, but I'm sure some do occasionally. Most of our centers like to advertise that they're participating in the program, so they send a note home saying that the kids are participating in the library's program and should not participate at home as well.

 At our library in Western PA, we include daycares in several ways.

1. We offer daycares the option of visiting the library as a field trip, especially when we have a speaker or a special program. The daycare lets us know when and how many kids are coming. That way we know how many extra kids to expect. Some years we have had a day care come once each week at a specific time. Yes, it does crowd our public space somewhat, but was only about 1 hour, we thought that was OK. If we had a program that had to be capped at a certain amount of kids, I notified the day care and told them that the public patrons would sign up first and that we wouldn't be able to host them that day, (The Carnegie Museum did a few programs here. We had pre-registration, age limits, and attendance limits).

2. With our reading incentive program, we do not register the kids through the day care. As we require parent signatures, we encourage parents to bring their kids in on Saturdays to register. We have tried to have a reading incentive program for kids through the daycare, but book logs got lost, latecomers had to be added, etc. We do send advertising home through the daycare in May.

3. We do a great deal of outreach - we visit daycares and summer camps throughout the summer. We usually award stickers for attendance. We do have one preschool that we are able to register kids for an SRP reading incentive and we award stickers and coupons there, as we usually read to the kids as a group, but the teacher will read each day, so these kids do have someone read to them daily.

 For summer reading, my library does do outreach for daycare/daycamp groups. Each class gets one of the reading logs, and they work on it together. We track minutes read, so that is easy for groups to do. At the end of summer, each class receives a few books for their room, not individual prizes.

If children want to sign up for the regular reading club, they do it with their parents, not with their teacher.

As far as program attendance goes, you are right, the numbers can really help with the statistics, but they also can overwhelm, depending on the program and

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Daycares at Summer Reading Club


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the space. At the beginning of summer, each daycare/daycamp receives a list of the library's summer programs, and directions about registering if they want to attend (i.e. call the children's desk). This way the library has more control over attendance, especially where craft materials or the fire code may be involved.


For a separate program, special for just their group, such as a storytime or tour, those must be booked in advance as well.

After a few years with these procedures, groups now know that they can drop in to browse the collection, but they need to register for special events. You may need to add wording on your website/calendar/brochure to that effect.

Good luck! Hope you can keep the best of both worlds. It is really nice to have a positive relationship with all those daycares.

 I have daycares come at a different time so I still get the numbers, but I'm not so overwhelmed. Annnnnnnnd I only have to prepare one storytime, but can use it multiple times for the different groups.

I haven't had any groups sign up for the summer reading program. I find most daycares do not want to have to keep track of the reading or papers or what-have-you

 In the past our library also had home daycares and center daycares bring their kids for storytime. I used to do two storytimes a day for 3 days. The frustrating part about that is when someone doesn't show up.

You have the room reserved for them and they not only show up but don't call. The other bad thing about that was the individual families got lost in the sea of daycare kids.

The problem was temporarily resolved because we went under construction. No more storytime, indoors that is. I did storytime outside in the library's backyard and it was a hit! Families enjoyed bringing blankets and chairs to listen to stories and watch mini puppet shows. I had teen volunteers to help and we danced and sang together.

The daycares enjoyed the change too. The cool thing about being outside was that you didn't have the restrictions to how many people you could see because of the size of the room. I used the big books so everyone could see the story and every week was a different theme. I did two storytimes instead of 6 and I had an average of 20-30 kids and adults attend.





Now we've moved from the library's backyard to two local parks. Our library partnered with the park district and we do storytime under a pavilion. We still have our baby and toddler storytime in the library but for the past 3 years our preschool storytime has been in the park.

Our lowest numbers are around 20 kids and adults but this year our 5th week we had 60 kids and adults attend. It just depends on the weather.

To your question about summer reading for daycares, our home daycares use the in-house program. They bring their daycare kids to the library, turn in the reading log and the kids get a prize. But a few years ago we started a special program for our center daycares. If you're interested I can send you samples. This is how it works. The first week of summer reading we drop off a selections of books and the reading log we created for the teacher to fill out. The teacher has 6 weeks to read the books to the kids then we pick up the books and deliver prizes. We have 3 programs. One for ages 0-2, 3-5, and school-agers. When I say programs, I mean each age group get age appropriate books. Then we ask the daycare providers to read at least 15 minutes a day to their kids and mark it on the sheet. That's it. The prize this year was a pass to Brookfield Zoo. The providers love it because they get new or different books to read to their kids and my boss loves it because it's circulating books and adding more kids to our summer reading numbers.

We also do the same for the summer schools too. This year we had 252 center daycare kids participate and over 537 summer school kids grades preschool - 8th grade who also participated. We delivered 1275 books and only 12 did not return. Nice numbers!

 We did a storytime in the park and invited the local preschools to attend - we had great attendance each time and a lot of fun - and because we didn't do a craft (we had parachute time instead) we could be flexible to allow for as many kids as wanted to attend. It was open to all kids - so we had kids enrolled in preschools as well as many kids there with parents or other caregivers. I also did an outreach storytime for school aged kids at one of our local day camp summer programs. All kids, whether in a summer program/day camp/day care or not were welcome to sign up for summer reading and to earn the same prizes as kids who came in on their own though. 



Dates to Remember

Virginia Conferences

October 26-28, 2016 VLA Annual Conference Hot Springs

National Conferences

October 27-29, 2016 Association for Rural & Small Libraries Conference Fargo

November 4-6, 2016 YALSA's 2016 YA Services Symposium Pittsburgh

Workshops

August 29, 2016 Library of Virginia Youth Services Fall Workshop Blacksburg

August 30, 2016 Library of Virginia Youth Services Fall Workshop Waynesboro

August 31, 2016 Library of Virginia Youth Services Fall Workshop Henrico

September 1, 2016 Library of Virginia Youth Services Fall Workshop Chesapeake

October 3, 2016 Bilingual Storytime and Library Outreach Online Course

October 3, 2016 Supercharged Virginia Storytime Online Course

Important reading program dates

September 30, 2016 Last Day to Access Evanced Summer Reader. We will be using new software for the Winter Reading Program and the Summer Reading Program

Now! Place your orders for the winter reading program at
<http://vpl.virginia.gov/youth-services/winter-reading-program/>

Library Observances, Celebration Weeks & Promotional Events

September

Library Card Sign-up Month <http://www.ala.org/news/mediapresscenter/factsheets/librarycardsign>

Hispanic Heritage Month <http://www.hispanicheritagemonth.gov/>
 (September 15–October 15)

Observances

September 5 Labor Day

September 6 Read a Book Day

September 11 National Grandparents Day

September 15 International Dot Day

September 21 International Day of Peace

September 25 Comic Book Day

September 26–October 1 Banned Books Week

Thanks for the photos and information!

- ♦ Diane Rebertus, Gloucester County Public Library
- ♦ Teri DeVoe, Institute of Museum and Library Services
- ♦ Rachel Enrich, Portsmouth Public Library
- ♦ The usual resources - PUBYAC